

Message Text

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43

ACTION IO-10

INFO OCT-01 AGR-05 AID-05 EB-07 EUR-12 COME-00 ISO-00

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9706

INFO US MISSION USUN NEW YORK 2419

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FODAG

E. O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: UNWFC, EAGR

SUBJECT: CONSULTATIONS ON FUNCTIONS OF WORLD FOOD COUNCIL

REF: A) STATE 040435

B) ROME 2184

1. BRITISH REPRESENTATIVE TO FAO TOLD U.S. REPRESENTATIVE FEBRUARY 24 THAT AUSTRALIANS HAD JUST APPROACHED HIM WITH SUGGESTION BY THEIR DEPUTY AGRICULTURE SECRETARY BOB SWIFT THAT CONSULTATIONS BE HELD ON WHAT FUNCTIONS SHOULD BE ASSUMED BY WORLD FOOD COUNCIL.

2. BRITISH AND U.S. REPRESENTATIVES AS CO-CHAIRMEN OF GENEVA GROUP IN ROME BELIEVE IT WOULD BE OUT-OF-LINE WITH GUIDANCE GIVEN BY GENEVA GROUP CONSULTATION LEVEL TO DEAL WITH THIS MATTER IN GENEVA GROUP IN ROME. THEY DISCUSSED U.S. REPRESENTATIVE'S EARLIER SUGGESTION OF REACTIVATION OF GROUP B, BUT BELIEVE GROUP B WOULD NOT BE SUITED TO CONSULTATIONS ON SUCH SUBJECTS -- E.G., MALTA AND VATICAN NEED NOT BE BROUGHT IN AT EARLY STAGE. GROUP B WOULD BE USEFUL TO COORDINATE IN LATE STAGES WITH BROAD GROUP OF COUNTRIES. BOTH BRITISH AND U.S. REPRESENTATIVES FAVOR INFORMAL CONSULTATIONS IN FORM OF BI-LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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LATERAL ROUND-ROBIN.

3. AS TO SUBSTANCE OF REQUEST, BRITISH AND U.S. REPRESENTATIVES BELIEVE FUNCTIONS OF WORLD FOOD COUNCIL ARE SET FORTH RATHER CLEARLY IN WORLD FOOD CONFERENCE RESOLUTION XXII, AND THAT IT IS TO BE DECISION-MAKING BODY ON MAJOR POLICIES, RECOMMENDING ACTIONS AND CORRECTIVE MEASURES TO GOVERNMENTS AND INTERNATIONAL BODIES, BUT IS NOT TO BE EXECUTIVE AGENCY.

4. U.S. REPRESENTATIVE BELIEVES IT WOULD BE TIMELY FOR U.S. GOVERNMENT TO TAKE INITIATIVES IN CONSULTING WITH SELECTED GOVERNMENTS ABOUT FUNCTIONS OF WORLD FOOD COUNCIL. VOLPE

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